

J. A. MAYBEE.

BY-LAWS

OF

Mount Zion Lodge, M.F. & M.M.

No. 39. G. R. C.

BROOKLIN, ONTARIO, CANADA.

R. B. 171, 019

BY-LAWS

T. L. W.
M. W.
1181 R

OF

Mount Zion Lodge,

A. F. & A. M.,

NO. 39, G. R. C.

Approved at Simcoe, Ontario, May 6, 1867.

WM. M. WILSON, G. M.

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MOUNT ZION LODGE, A. F. & A. M.,

NO. 39, G. R. C.

BROOKLIN, ONTARIO, CANADA.



Grand Master :

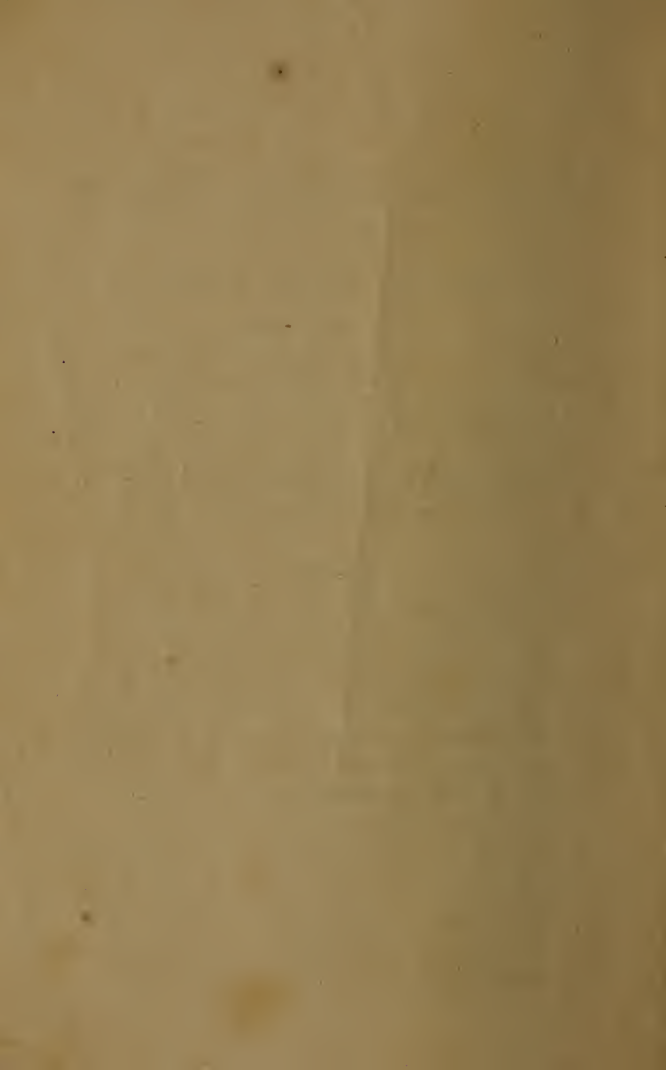
M. W. Bro. Col. WM. MERCER WILSON, LL.D., &c.

District Deputy Grand Master, Ontario District :

R. W. Bro. WILLIAM McCABE, LL.B.

Officers :

- W. Bro. JAMES B. BICKELL, *I. P. M.*
- W. Bro. JOHN P. CAMPBELL, *W. M.*
- Bro. HENRY WARREN, M.D., *S. W.*
- Bro. JOHN BOSANKO, *J. W.*
- Bro. CHARLES A. ALLUMS, *Treasurer.*
- Bro. JAMES POWELL, *Secretary.*
- Bro. WILLIAM A. KESTER, *S. D.*
- Bro. GEORGE HEPBURN, *J. D.*
- Bro. REV. WM. PIRRITE, *Chaplain.*
- Bro. THOMAS HODGSON } *Stewards.*
- Bro. JOSEPH C. HUCKINS }
- Bro. MATHEW CRAWFORTH, *I. G.*
- Bro. NOAH BATES *Tyler.*



BY-LAWS.

CHAP. I.—THE LODGE.

THE TITLE OF THE LODGE.

Sec. 1.—The title of this Lodge shall be MOUNT ZION LODGE, No. 39.

THE WARRANT OF THE LODGE.

Sec. 2.—The Warrant of this Lodge is a Charter, granted on the 14th day of July, A.D. 1858, by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Canada, to whose constitutional rules and edicts the most implicit respect and obedience shall ever be paid by its members.*

THE MEETINGS OF THE LODGE.

Sec. 3.—The meetings shall be either stated, festival, or called. The *stated* meetings shall be held on the Tuesday on or before the full moon of each month, at the hour of half-past seven, p.m., and shall be closed at ten o'clock, p.m., or so soon thereafter as work commenced before that hour shall allow.

REGULARITY OF ATTENDANCE.

Sec. 4.—To secure that regularity so highly necessary for the good government of a Lodge, it is expected that every Officer will attend punctually at the hour named

*The original Charter of this Lodge was granted March 22, 1853, by the Right Honourable the Earl of Zetland, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England.

in the summons, under penalty of censure by the W.M., unless exonerated by some reasonable excuse or cause of absence.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Sec. 5.—The order of business at every stated meeting of the Lodge shall be as follows, subject, however, to be changed at any time by motion, or temporarily dispensed with, at the discretion of the Master:—

1. Reading Minutes of last *stated* and all subsequent Emergent Meetings.
2. Unfinished business.
3. Reports of Committees.
4. Balloting.
5. Reception of Petitions and Communications.
6. Motions and Accounts.
7. Work.

All business of this Lodge must originate at stated meetings, except the burial of the dead and installations; all balloting on petitions for initiation, advancement, or membership, and all appropriations of the funds of the Lodge, must be done at *stated* meetings.

No meeting can be called off beyond the day and night in which it was opened, and the Lodge must be regularly closed before the brethren disperse.

A degree or degrees may be conferred at emergent meetings, provided the candidate or candidates have been duly elected.

Festival meetings, for the purpose of installation or social pleasure, shall be held at the anniversaries of the Saints John (St. John the Baptist, June 24th; St. John the Evangelist, December 27th); or should either of them

fall on Sunday, then on the day before or the day after, at such hour as shall have been previously designated by vote of the Lodge.

Emergent meetings may be held at any time, as pointed out in the Book of Constitution of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons of Canada, at which no work shall be taken up but such as may have been strictly specified in the summons for such meeting; but should a Lodge of Emergency be called at the solicitation of a Brother, for his own benefit or advancement, all expenses of the meeting shall be defrayed by him, as fixed Cap. IV., Sec. 1.

All meetings of this Lodge shall be held in the Masonic Hall, Brooklin, or in such other hall therein as the brethren may engage for that purpose, unless—for funeral and other strictly emergent purposes—the W.M. direct otherwise.

No meeting of this Lodge, either stated, called or festival, can be held, unless the Warrant is present, and displayed in view of the members present; and none can be declared open until after devout prayer to T. G. A. O. T. U.

This Lodge shall be represented at each Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada, when practicable.

CHAP. II.—THE MEMBERSHIP.

WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THIS LODGE.

Sec. 1.—The members of this Lodge are all who have been or may be initiated or elected to membership herein, and who have subscribed their names to these

By-Laws, not having withdrawn, or having been suspended, excluded, or expelled by Grand Lodge.

THE DUTIES OF THE MEMBERS.

Sec. 2.—The duties of the members of this Lodge are primarily divided into three classes—toward God, their neighbours, and themselves.

Toward God—to respect the name and exalt the honor of the Grand Master in Heaven, and ever to allude to Him with that profound respect due from the creature to the Creator ; likewise to love, honor, and obey the Holy Bible, the Word of God, as the only Masonic Guide of faith and practice.

Toward their neighbour—to do unto others as, in like circumstances, they would have others do to them.

Toward themselves—to avoid all irregularity and intemperance, which may impair their faculties, or debase the dignity of their profession.

The duties of the members of this Lodge are secondarily divided into three classes—towards an individual brother, this Lodge, and the body of Masonry.

Toward an individual brother—to aid him in the hour of difficulty, console him in the hour of grief, relieve him in distress, counsel him when astray, pray for him at all times, and to avoid every word and act that might injure him in person, character, purse, or feeling.

Toward this Lodge—to obey these By-Laws, and all other of its rules and edicts, as well in spirit as in letter ; to uphold all its lawful interests, and extend the honor of its name throughout the Masonic world.

Toward the body of Masonry—to support the Constitu-

tion of the Grand Lodge of Canada, which is the conservator and ruler of the Order in this jurisdiction, and see that none of the ancient landmarks of Masonry are removed or overthrown.

The various charges delivered monitorially to candidates in the three symbolic degrees respectively, are hereby acknowledged to contain a correct summary of Masonic duties ; any violation of these rules, or neglect of the duties specified in this section, is an offence against Masonry.

CHAP. III.—THE OFFICERS OF THE LODGE.

Sec. 1.—The Officers of this Lodge shall be elected at the Regular Meeting immediately preceding the Festival of St. John the Evangelist.

Every Officer, duly elected and installed, shall hold his office until his successor shall have been duly elected and installed.

No Officer duly elected or appointed and installed, can resign his office during the term thereof ; but in the case of the removal of an Officer from the jurisdiction of the Lodge, his office may, in the discretion of the Lodge, with the concurrence of the W.M., be declared vacant, and such Officer may be displaced therefrom, when another must be elected or appointed in his place.

INSTALLATION.

Sec. 2.—The installation of the Officers of this Lodge shall take place on the celebration of the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, or as soon as practicable after the Festival.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

Sec. 4.—In addition to those duties which appertain to every individual Mason, and those which are purely traditional, and therefore unwritten, together with those prescribed by the Constitution, By-Laws, and Antient Charges and Landmarks of Freemasonry, the duties of each of the Officers shall be as prescribed under the heading of each office following :—

THE WORSHIPFUL MASTER.

1. The W.M. shall preserve the Warrant of the Lodge with unfailing care, and deliver it to his successor in office.

2. He shall read, or cause to be read, these By-Laws, the Constitution, and the current Annual Proceedings of Grand Lodge, at least once during his annual term of office.

3. He shall read the “Antient Charges” at each initiation.

4. He shall draw all orders on the treasurer, or, in his absence, the acting P.M. shall do so, but in neither case without the consent and formal vote of the Lodge.

5. He shall install his successor in office.

6. In conjunction with the Wardens, he shall hold all the property of the Lodge in trust.

THE WARDENS.

The members of the Lodge while at labor (the space of time occupied by the meetings of the Lodge, unless called off), are under charge of the S.W., who shall

report to the Lodge all offences that occur during his administration.

The members of the Lodge, while at refreshment (the interval between one stated meeting and another) are under charge of the J.W., who will report to the Lodge all offences that occur during his administration.

But the Wardens respectively shall be allowed their discretion, whether to report trivial offences to the Lodge, or make them the subject of private counsel, caution, or reprimand.

The report shall be in writing, and in the form of charges and specifications, which the Warden, who presents, shall personally prosecute before the Lodge.

The Wardens shall, in conjunction with the Deacons, give all necessary instructions to candidates for advancement.

The S.W. shall, under the W.M., specially see to the safe and proper keeping of the jewels, paraphernalia, and furniture of the Lodge, and shall examine the inventory of the same immediately before entering into office, and shall be assisted by the Stewards.

THE TREASURER.

1. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys of the Lodge, through the Secretary, discharge all accounts duly signed by the W.M. or P.M., as hereinbefore specified, and Secretary ; and also orders of the Charitable Committee.

2. He shall keep books in which his receipts and disbursements shall be regularly entered, so as to exhibit at one view the balance in his hands, at every regular meet-

ing, and should the balance at any one time amount to more than \$100, he shall give special notice thereof to the Lodge.

3. He shall keep the account with the Grand Lodge separate and distinct, and shall hand at each Festival the Grand Lodge dues to the W.M. for transmission with the semi-annual returns to the Grand Secretary.

4. His accounts and vouchers shall be at all times open to the Audit Committee, who shall report thereon quarterly, at the R. M. in April, July, September, and December, and on the eve of his term of office, at least one week previous to the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, he shall prepare his books and vouchers for final audit, and meet the Audit Committee therewith in the Lodge room, at such hour as may be appointed, and shall promptly deliver, on the Festival aforesaid, to his successor in office, all the funds of the Lodge, together with all the books, vouchers, &c., having any reference to the financial business of the Lodge.

THE SECRETARY.

1. The Secretary shall receive all moneys, and pay them over promptly to the Treasurer.

2. He shall collect the dues of the members quarterly, and read the names of those in arrears at the Regular Meetings of April, July, September, and December.

3. He shall attend upon trials and meetings to take evidence, and shall furnish copies thereof when directed by the W.M.

4. He shall preserve the seal of the Lodge with care, and deliver it to the W.M. at the close of his term of office, and shall also promptly deliver to his successor in

office all the books, papers, vouchers, &c., in his possession, having any reference to the business of his office.

5. He shall keep a correct register of the members, and their respective accounts with the Lodge.

6. He shall sign all authorized Certificates, and affix the Lodge seal thereto; issue all necessary notices and summonses for meetings, &c., and countersign all orders of the W.M.

7. He shall prepare all returns required by the Grand Lodge, and notify the first-named brother of every Committee, of his appointment, the names of his associates, and the object of their appointment.

8. He shall keep neat minutes of the proceedings of each meeting, in the form prescribed by Grand Lodge.

THE DEACONS.

The Deacons shall, under the direction of the W.M., assist the Wardens in instructing candidates for advancement, and shall also assist the Stewards at Festivals, under the direction of the J.W., and shall attend the Master and Wardens to assist in opening the Lodge at the proper time, and in the ceremonies and preparation of candidates, and otherwise as the W.M. and Wardens may direct, and shall also, under the direction of the Secretary, assist in collecting the quarterly dues.

THE STEWARDS.

1. The Stewards shall have in charge, being in this respect assistants to the S.W., and subject to the direct orders of the W.M., the furniture, jewels, and other property of the Lodge.

2. They shall provide light, fuel, and refreshments for the comfort of the brethren, and shall have special care to cleanliness in the hall and ante-rooms.

3. In the absence of the I.G. one of the Stewards, to be named by the W.M., shall temporarily fill his place.

INNER GUARD.

The I.G. shall attend each meeting punctually at the hour named in the summons, to guard the interior of the Lodge, shall see that the Tyler's and Visitors' Books are properly prepared, and receive visiting brethren and candidates for admission, and give directions to the Tyler.

THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES.

1. The Master of Ceremonies must be punctual at every meeting of the Lodge, to see that all preparations are made that are necessary for holding a Lodge, and then invite the brethren to enter.

2. He shall introduce the visiting brethren and show them their places.

3. He must be in waiting in the ante-room before the opening of the Lodge, and enter into conversation with every stranger who comes into the ante-room, to ascertain if he is a brother.

4. In the Lodge he shall pay attention and see that everything necessary for due solemnity is prepared before the Lodge is opened, and that nothing may disturb the solemnity while it is open.

5. He shall see that all Brethren appear in Lodge in the clothing prescribed by the Constitution.

THE TYLER.

The Tyler shall attend punctually and diligently, have the Lodge properly heated and lighted for each meeting, watch the exterior of the Lodge, and see that all candidates for admission come properly prepared.

THE CHAPLAIN.

The duties of this Officer speak for themselves, and it is very desirable to have his punctual and regular attendance.

Each Officer of this Lodge shall be held personally responsible to the W.M., and through him to the Lodge and to the Grand Lodge, that his office shall be filled with dignity, honor, and correctness, and that its various duties be performed without haughtiness or tyranny, but according to love, and in a diligent desire to exemplify to the world the virtues and sublime morality of Freemasonry.

Due respect shall be paid, by members of this Lodge, to its various officers, according to their respective rank and station.

CHAP. IV.—FINANCIALS.

FEES.

Sec. 1.—The fees are for Degrees, Membership, Quaterage, and for Extraordinary Contributions.

For Degrees.—For the three Degrees the fee shall be \$20 ; for the F.C. & M.M., \$15 ; for the M.M., \$10.

When a Degree is conferred upon a candidate at a meeting called for the purpose, by request of the candidate, he shall pay \$2 to cover the expenses of the meeting.

For Membership.—The fee for Membership shall be \$2, to accompany the application.

In every instance the members who recommend a candidate, whether for initiation or membership, are responsible for the whole fee, which must be paid at the time of initiation or admission.

For Quarterage.—The fee for Quarterage shall be 50 cents, of which $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents shall be set apart to purchase Masonic publications for the Library. This fee shall be demanded by the Secretary at the close of each quarter.

CHARITY.

Sec. 2.—The virtue of practical charity or alms-giving is recognized by this Lodge as one of the primary principles of the Masonic institution. The standing committee on charity shall have the power at any time to draw upon the Treasurer through its chairman, the W.M., for any sum not exceeding \$10, in the discretion of the committee, to bestow upon a distressed worthy M.M., his wife, widow, or orphan child, or any other distressed worthy applicant for aid.

The Lodge may make such appropriations for special purposes as Masonic law and usages justify.

MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS.

Sec. 4.—All moneys received by the Secretary on behalf of the Lodge shall be handed over to the Treasurer,

at or before the next meeting subsequent to its reception.

All moneys received by the Treasurer, on behalf of the Lodge, shall be kept by him, as a separate fund from his private means, and be at the command of the Lodge at any moment when drawn upon or called for.

The Lodge, at its discretion, may loan out its funds, at lawful interest, under the supervision of the Treasurer, on his taking in his own name and that of the W.M., as Trustees of the Lodge, good and sufficient security therefor.

CHAP. V.—COMMITTEES.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Sec. 1.—There shall be two Standing Committees of the Lodge, viz. :—

A Committee of Charity, and

A Committee of Finance.

COMMITTEE OF CHARITY.

The Committee of Charity shall consist of the W.M. and Wardens.

The duties of this Committee shall be to dispense the benevolence of the Lodge, so as to relieve human distress in the most speedy and practicable manner.

The Committee of Charity may take such measures in employing nurses to wait upon the sick, engaging the

burial of the dead, &c., as any sudden contingency may demand, and present the accounts so incurred, through the Finance Committee, for settlement.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

The Finance Committee shall consist of three members, Master Masons, to be appointed by the W.M., on the day of his installation.

The duties of the Committee of Finance shall be to examine the books, vouchers, &c., of the Treasurer and Secretary from time to time, and to make a detailed report *in writing* quarterly and at the first Regular Meeting in June.

Likewise, to examine and audit all bills, accounts and claims that may be presented to the Lodge for payment, and report upon the same in writing.

Nor shall any account be allowed by the Lodge until it shall have been examined and reported upon by this Committee.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Sec. 2.—Special Committees shall be appointed upon all applications for initiation or membership, and upon other items of business, at the discretion of the Lodge.

All reports of Committees shall be *in writing*, unless otherwise ordered by the Lodge.

All Committees, whether Standing or Special (except the Committee on Charity) shall be appointed by the W.M., and shall be composed of Master Masons.

Members who are appointed to serve upon Committees shall feel bound in Masonic Honor to give patient and diligent attention to the business of their appointment, and report their conclusions to the Lodge, without fear or favor.

CHAP. VI.—DISCIPLINE.

OFFENCES.

Sec. 1.—An offence in Masonry is hereby defined to be an act or omission which contravenes any clause of these By-Laws, any Constitutional rule or edict of the Grand Lodge, any requisition of the unwritten laws of Masonry, any law of the land, or any law of God.

The Ten Commandments constitute the Divine Law to which Freemasons are particularly subject.

The popular vices of intemperance, profanity, Sabbath-breaking, evil speaking, licentiousness and gambling, are in a special manner interdicted, as unmasonic.

Non-payment of dues, divulging the transactions of the Lodge to any but a member thereof, violating the secrecy of the ballot-box or of the Lodge, rude behaviour within the Lodge, neglect of family and neighbourhood duties, contumacy in refusing obedience to a Lodge summons, &c., are specially declared unmasonic.

Non-affiliated Masons living within the jurisdiction of this Lodge are under its cognizance, and they shall be reported for unmasonic behaviour in the same manner as members of the Lodge.

TRIALS.

Sec. 2.—No penalty shall be inflicted by the Lodge until after a fair trial and examination of evidence, or confession of the fact of guilt shall be manifest.

The MANNER OF TRIAL shall be as follows :—

The written charges and specifications shall be filed with the Secretary of the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to have a copy thereof duly delivered to the accused, as also a notice which shall give a reasonable time for the taking of evidence to sustain the charges and specifications ; also to inform the accused that he may at the same time and place offer proof to exculpate himself from such charges, and that the accused may also have leave to take proof at such other time and proper place as he may designate, upon giving seasonable notice to the Master or presiding officer of said Lodge, for which purpose the Lodge shall allow a reasonable time, if asked for.

And in all cases the whole of the testimony shall be reduced to writing, if not improper to be written, and shall be carefully preserved by the Secretary of the Lodge.

Every member shall be duly tried in the Lodge opened in the highest degree which he has attained ; and he shall be allowed to remain in the Lodge during the trial, and until the summing up of the evidence is completed.

PENALTIES FOR OFFENCES.

Sec. 3.—The object of all Masonic penalties is declared to be two-fold—to vindicate the honor of Masonry, and to reform the erring brother.

The only penalties recognized by this Lodge or known to Freemasonry are expulsion, exclusion, suspension, and reprimand, of which only the last three can be exercised by the Lodge.

CHAP. VII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

If the dues of any brother or brethren remain unpaid for six months, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to read over the names of all brethren so in default, and to notify him or them specially thereof; and if such have not paid his or their arrears before the next Regular Meeting, it shall then devolve upon the S.W. to propose, and the J.W. to second, that such defaulter or defaulters be summoned to shew the cause at the next R. M.; and further, if such cause be unsatisfactory, that said brother or brethren be forthwith suspended, unless some brother will become responsible for the arrears, or can offer such palliation or excuse as the Lodge may deem sufficient to cause a suspension of this By-Law until the next R. M., beyond which time the indulgence cannot be extended to the brother or brethren so in default, unless a motion to that effect is adopted by the Lodge.

CLOTHING.

The clothing prescribed by the Grand Lodge shall be worn at all meetings of the Lodge, and it shall be the duty of the I.G. and Tyler to see to the carrying out of this By-Law.

WITHDRAWAL.

Any member, except he hold an office, may withdraw on notifying the W.M. in writing, giving a satisfactory reason, and on paying up his dues, provided he be not under suspension or charges for unmasonic conduct of any sort, and the Lodge consent to such withdrawal.

AMENDMENTS.

No alteration, by way of addition, amendment, or otherwise, shall be made in these By-Laws, unless such proposed alteration be offered in writing at a Regular Meeting, be left with the Secretary, and at the subsequent Regular Meeting be agreed to by two-thirds of the members present, and be subsequently confirmed by the proper authority.



PRAYERS.

Invocation—First Degree.

Vouchsafe thine aid, Almighty Father and Supreme Governor of the Universe, to this our present convention, and grant this candidate for masonry may so dedicate and devote his life to thy service as to become a true and faithful brother among us. Endow him with a competency of thy divine wisdom, that, assisted by the secrets of this our masonic art, he may be the better enabled to display the beauties of true godliness, to the honor and glory of thy holy name.—*So mote it be.*

Invocation—Second Degree.

We supplicate the continuance of thine aid, O merciful God, on behalf of ourselves and of him who kneels before thee. May the work begun in thy name be continued to thy glory, and evermore established in us, by obedience to thy holy precepts.—*So mote it be.*

Invocation—Third Degree.

Almighty and Eternal Being, the Glorious Architect and Ruler of the Universe, at whose creative fiat all things first were made, we, the frail creatures of thy providence, humbly implore thee to pour down on this con-

vocation, assembled in thy holy name, the continual dew of thy blessings; more especially we beseech thee to impart thy grace to this thy servant, who offers himself a candidate to partake with us the mysterious secrets of a master mason; endue him with such fortitude that in the hour of trial he fail not, but pass him safely under thy protection through the valley of the shadow of death, that he may finally arise from the tomb of transgression to shine as the stars for ever and ever.—*So mote it be.*



WORKING TOOLS.

E. A. Degree.

* * * * * the Working Tools of an E. A. M., which are the 24-in. G., the C. G. and the C.

The 24-in. G. is to measure their work.

The C. G. is to knock off the rough and superfluous parts of stones, the better to fit them for the builder's use.

The C. is further to smooth and prepare the stone and render it fit for the hands of the more expert Craftsman.

But as we are not all O., but rather F. & A. or S. M., we apply these tools to our morals ; in this sense,

The 24-in. G. represents the twenty-four hours of the day ; part to be spent in prayer to Almighty God, part in labor and rest, and part to serve a friend or brother in time of need.

The C. G. represents the force of conscience, which should keep down all vain and unbecoming thoughts, so that our words and actions may ascend pure and unpolluted to the throne of grace.

The C. points out to us the advantage of education, by means of which we are rendered fit members for properly constituted society.

F. C. Degree.

* * * * * the Working Tools of a F. C., which are the S., L., and P. R.,

The S. is to try and adjust all rectangular corners of buildings, and assist in bringing rude matter into due form.

The L. is to lay levels and prove horizontals, and the P. R. is to try and adjust all uprights, whilst fixing them on their proper bases.

But as we are not all O., but rather F. & A. or S. M., we apply these tools to our morals ; in this sense,

The S. teaches morality, the L. equality, and the P. R., justness and uprightness of life and action ; so that by square conduct, level steps and upright intentions, we hope to ascend to those immortal mansions from whence all goodness emanates.

M. M. Degree.

**** the Working Tools of a M. M., which are the S., P., and C.

The S. is an implement which acts on a centre pin, from whence a line is drawn, to mark out the ground for the foundation of the intended structure.

With the P. the skilful artist delineates the building in a draft or plan, for the inspection and guidance of the workmen.

The C. enables him with accuracy and precision to ascertain and determine the limits and proportions of its several parts.

But as we are not all O., but rather S. or F. & A. M., we apply these tools to our morals ; in this sense,

The S. points out that straight and undeviating line of conduct laid down for our guidance in the volume of the S. L.

The P. teaches us that all our words and actions are not only observed, but are recorded by the M. H., to whom we must render an account of our conduct through life.

The C. reminds us of his unerring and impartial justice, which, having defined for our instruction the limits of good and evil, will either reward or punish us as we have obeyed or disregarded His Divine Commands. Thus, my brother, the Working Tools of a M. M. teach us to bear in mind and to act according to the laws of the Divine Creator, so that when we shall be summoned from this sublunary abode, we may ascend to the Grand Lodge above, where the world's Great Architect lives and reigns for ever.

Application for Joining.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens,⁵ Officers, and Members of ——— Lodge No. —

I, ——— of the ——— of ——— profession or addition, ——— aged ——— being a ——— Mason, am desirous of becoming a member of the ——— Lodge, No. —.

I was initiated, passed and raised in ——— No. — held at ———, and am in good Masonic standing.

Dated at ———, this — day of ———, A.L. —.

[Signature.]

Recommended by ———

—————

—————

Application for Initiation.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, Officers, and Members of the Lodge of ——— No. —.

I, ———, being free by birth, and of the full age of twenty-one years, do declare that, unbiased by the improper solicitation of friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary or other unworthy motive, I freely and voluntarily offer myself as a candidate for the mysteries of Free Masonry; that I am prompted by a favorable opinion conceived of the Institution and a desire for knowledge, and that I will cheerfully conform to all the ancient usages and established customs of the Order.

Witness my hand, this ———

Age ———, Profession ———.

Recommended by ———

—————

Application for Withdrawal from Membership.

To the Worshipful Master, &c.

I, Brother ——, being in good standing, and having paid up all dues, am desirous of withdrawing from membership in this Lodge, and therefore pray that my resignation be accepted, and the authorized Certificate, under the Lodge Seal, be prepared and delivered to me by the Secretary.

Witness my hand, this ——

—————

Certificate of Withdrawal.

—— LODGE, No. ——

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting :

This is to certify that Brother ——, who has signed his name in the margin, has duly withdrawn from membership in this Lodge ; and further, that he has paid up all dues, and leaves in good standing.

Given under our hands and Seal of the Lodge, this ——

—— W. M.

—— Secretary.

—————

Visitor's Test, (commonly called the Tyler's O. B.)

I, ——, do hereby and hereon solemnly and sincerely swear that I have been regularly initiated, passed and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, in a just and legally constituted Lodge of such ; that I do not stand suspended or expelled, and know of no reason why I should not hold Masonic communication with my Brethren.

Note on the Ballot.

In balloting on a petition, every member present is expected to vote ; nor can he be excused from the discharge of this important duty, except by the unanimous consent of his brethren.

All members must therefore come up to the performance of this trust with firmness, candor, and a full determination to do right—to allow no personal timidity to forbid the deposit of a black ball, if the applicant is unworthy, and no illiberal prejudice to prevent the deposition of a white ball, if the character and qualifications of the candidate are unobjectionable.

The great object of the ballot is to secure the independence of the voter, and for this purpose, its secrecy should be inviolate.

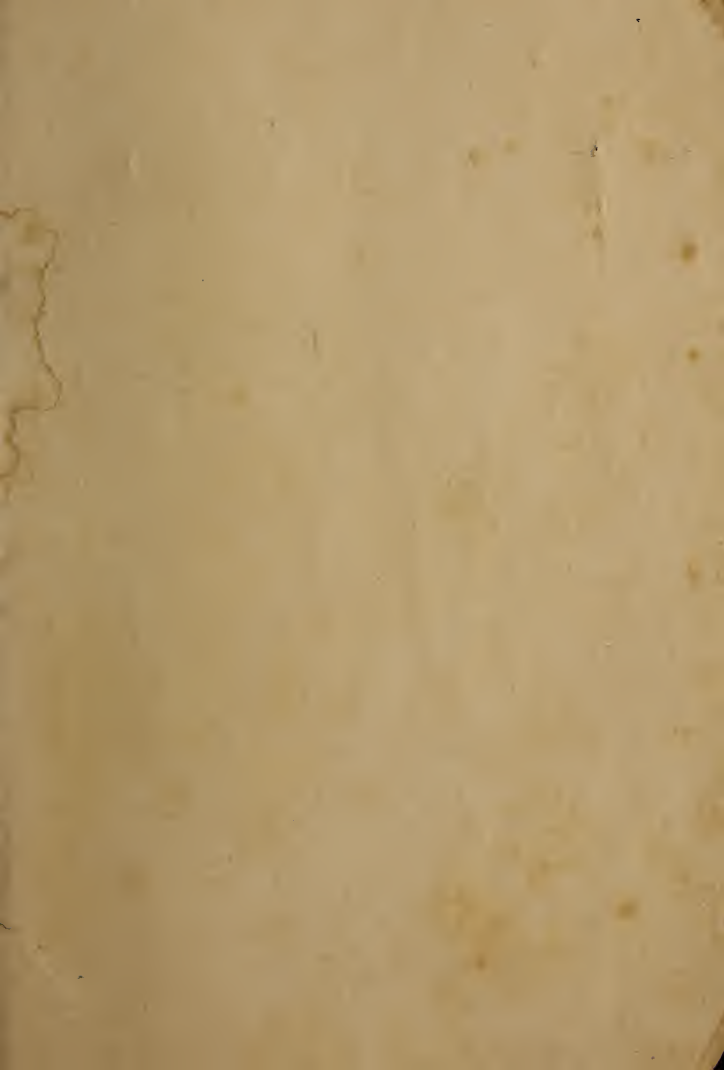
No member can be called to an account for the ballot he has deposited.

No member should find fault or complain of the result of the ballot, for by so doing, he declares that he did not black the applicant ; and should all members who voted with white balls thus complain, or find fault, the brother having cast the black ball would be exposed, and the security of the ballot destroyed.

When an applicant has been blacked, he is to be notified by the Secretary, and the matter should remain a profound secret between the members of the fraternity and the applicant.

It is a gross Masonic offence for any member to make public the action of the Lodge in blacking an applicant.





Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is extremely faint and illegible due to fading and the age of the paper. Some faint words like "I" and "of" are barely discernible.